ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES NEWS RELEASE



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FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT COOK INLET STATE-WATERS PACIFIC COD SEASON CLOSES TO POT GEAR EO # 2-GF-H-07-12

The Cook Inlet Area state-waters Pacific cod season will close to vessels fishing with pot gear effective 5:00 pm, Thursday, March 29, 2012.

The Cook Inlet Area state-waters Pacific cod season opened to pot gear at 12:00 noon, February 11, 2012 with a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 4.7 million pounds allocated 85% or 4.0 million pounds to pot gear and 15% or 0.7 million pounds to jig gear. Based upon current and projected harvest levels, the pot vessel allocation will be achieved by 5:00 p.m. March 29, 2012.

Fishermen are reminded that all pots must be unbaited and doors open at the time of the closure. Pots must be removed from the water no later than five days following the closure. Fish must be landed within 24-hours following the closure.

In addition, the Cook Inlet Pacific Cod Management Plan provides for the release of any unharvested jig allocation to all legal gear types effective September 1 if it is determined that the jig allocation will not be achieved.

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